

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 3-6, 9 and 11-14 are pending in this application, of which claims 1 and 9 have been amended. Claims 2, 7-8 and 10 have been canceled. No new claims have been added.

In the Final Office Action dated January 9, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3-6, 9 and 11-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Kawamura et al. in view of Kuba et al. (both previously applied) and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,278,447 to Anderson (hereafter, "Anderson").

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As noted in Applicant's response of October 21, 2005, Kawamura et al. discloses an image processing system, indexing pictures reduced and stored in single frame recording regions showing frames photographed in a single frame photography mode (FIG. 7B; col. 8, lines 43-64), and indexing pictures reduced and stored in single frame recording regions showing frames photographed in a continuous photography mode (FIG. 7C; col. 8, lines 43-64).

Kuba describes an electronic imaging apparatus having hierarchical image data storage structure for computer-compatible image data management, and also describes an electronic still camera with LCD 12. An interval reproduction is shown (FIGS. 25(A) and (B); col. 22, lines 5-14).

While all images are displayed in the continuously picked-up image reproduction mode in Kawamura et al., only one image for every continuous image pickup is representatively displayed in the present application.

Neither of these references teaches, mentions or suggests that the first selecting unit has a direction designating section for moving a state of display indicating a selected image to a desired image among a plurality of reduced images displayed by said display unit, as in the present invention.

In response to this argument, the Examiner has cited Anderson for teaching this “direction description feature.”

Applicant respectfully disagrees. Column 11, lines 28-34 of Anderson disclose:

When only one image is available, then the small thumbnail 700 representing that image is displayed above the selection indication in the selection arrow line 702. And when there are more than four images in the camera, the selection arrow line 702 displays arrow heads to indicate movement in that direction is possible with the left/right navigation buttons 410.

Thus, Anderson discloses only that the selection arrow line 702 indicates movement of the display in only the right and left directions. This fails to disclose the additional feature in the present invention of at least three direction designating sections which move a state of display in at least three directions, including a first direction, a second direction opposite the first direction and a third direction different from said first and second directions.

Accordingly, claims 1 and 9 have been amended to clarify this distinction.

Thus, the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection should be withdrawn.

The undersigned conducted a telephonic interview with the Examiner on April 20, 2006, wherein the above claim amendments and arguments were addressed. The Examiner indicated that the above amendments would overcome the prior art rejections of record, but that a new search would be conducted.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/274,771  
Preliminary Amendment

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1, 3-6, 9 and 11-14, as amended, are in condition for further examination.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: Petition for Extension of Time  
Request for Continued Examination Transmittal  
Check in the amount of \$910.00

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